

## Shire of Mundaring

# POLICY

### COMMUNITY FUNDING

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<b>Local Law Ref:</b>	n/a		

#### PURPOSE

To outline the financial support provided to eligible local not-for-profit community groups through the Community Funding Program.

#### BACKGROUND

Council receives a range of requests for funding from local groups for a variety of sports, arts, recreation, environmental and community projects each year.

Council seeks to support groups to undertake these projects and in doing so, acknowledges the vast contribution made by local volunteers and not for profit groups to the social, cultural and economic fabric of our community.

This policy ensures that Shire funding resources are allocated in a way that is transparent, legal and equitable and that funded projects further the strategic aims and objectives of the Shire and represent responsible use of public monies.

#### POLICY

1. The aims of the Shire's Community Funding program are:
  - To encourage the development of services, facilities and events that meet identified community needs.
  - To promote active participation of local residents in community initiatives and the development of skills, knowledge and opportunities.
  - Encourage community connection, foster health and wellbeing and enhance community spirit.

- To provide assistance to the community to develop and deliver initiatives and services that support the Shire's Strategic Community Plan.
- To provide a level of funding that takes into account the budgetary constraints of the Shire.
- To enable community organisations to attract other funding and in-kind support.
- To acknowledge community organisations and volunteers for the positive contribution they make to the local community and Council's vision for the future.
- To ensure Shire funds are distributed in an equitable and transparent manner that ensures good governance.

## **MULTI-YEAR FUNDING AGREEMENTS**

For community groups in receipt of multi-year funding from the Shire, support will be delivered in the following ways:

### ***Four Year Service Agreements:***

Service Agreements may be offered to groups who provide an ongoing service to the community and maintain a continual community presence. These Agreements will support groups in their operations and staffing levels with the services they provide closely aligned to the Shire's strategic goals. These groups are required to report six monthly against key performance indicators as agreed with the Shire. Four year Service Agreements will be reserved for groups who bring a high level return on investment. It is generally expected that these Service Agreements will be offered recurrently, provided all conditions of funding are met.

Groups seeking a Service Agreement are able to do so via submitting a detailed business case to Council for assessment and consideration through its annual Corporate Business Planning processes.

### ***Event Grant Agreements:***

Multi-year Event Grant Agreements may be offered to groups who have a proven track record in the delivery of their community based event. The initiatives funded at this level will be closely aligned to the Shire's strategic goals and have the ability to attract significant external funding. These groups are required to report annually against key performance indicators as agreed with the Shire. Clear administration processes must be in place, with robust business planning demonstrated. It is generally expected that Multi-Year Event Grant Agreements will be offered recurrently, provided all conditions of funding are met.

There are three tiers of Event Grant Agreements –

- One off Annual Community Events Grants – these grants are offered through the annual open, competitive, Community Grants Program (refer under Community Grants section). Event funding at this level is generally for those events that are local in nature and reinforce community connectedness and pride.

- Two year agreements – offered to those groups who have a history of consistently and successfully delivering the event to be funded on five or more occasions. An evaluation of the events must have been undertaken with evidence of achieving the events intended outcomes provided. Funding at this level is developmental in nature with the intent of supporting groups to become further established and broaden their reach whilst providing security of longer term funding. Groups will be considered for this level of funding following submission of a detailed business case that has been considered by Council through its annual Corporate Business Planning processes.
- Three year agreements – provided to those groups who are delivering events that are regional in nature, are unique in their offering and have capacity to attract external visitors. Groups will be considered for this level of funding following submission of a detailed business case that has been considered by Council through its annual Corporate Business Planning processes.

## **COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM**

The Shire provides a variety of one-off community grants through the open, competitive, Community Grants Program. Guidelines pertaining to each of the following individual grants, including eligibility criteria and promotional and acquittal obligations, are made available to all prospective applicants via the website and in paper copy on request.

### ***Community Event Grants***

This grant provides funding to groups wishing to run fetes, festivals, markets, sporting/recreational carnivals, exhibitions and small performances.

Grants under \$1000 will be assessed by the Chief Executive Officer.

Grants \$1000 or greater (to a maximum of \$5000), will be assessed by the Grants Selection Committee.

### ***Matching Fund Grants***

This grant provides funding for projects meeting the needs of the local community. Groups must be able to match the Shire funding dollar for dollar. Funding can be used towards equipment, minor capital upgrades, promotional material and training.

Grants under \$1000 will be assessed by the Chief Executive Officer.

Grants \$1000 or greater (to a maximum of \$2000), will be assessed by the Grants Selection Committee.

### ***Quick Grants***

This grant provides funding to groups for the purchase of small equipment, promotional material, training and any other small projects that benefit the community.

Assessment and allocation of funding through Community Quick Grants (to a maximum of \$500) will be undertaken by the Chief Executive Officer.

### ***Giving Back Volunteer Recognition Grants – Milestone Event and Volunteer Recognition Event Grants***

The Milestone Event grant provides funding to community groups to help them celebrate a significant milestone achievement.

Assessment of the Giving Back Milestone Grant will be undertaken by the Grants Selection Committee. One grant to a maximum value of \$2500 will be awarded annually.

The Volunteer Recognition Event Grant provides funding to volunteer based organisations within the shire to support groups wishing to undertake activities and celebrations for the benefit of their members with the purpose of recognising their contribution to the group.

Assessment of Volunteer Recognition Event Grants will be undertaken by the Chief Executive Officer (maximum of \$300 awarded to each group).

### ***Youth Engagement Partnership Fund***

The Shire works in partnership with community groups to deliver a range of programs and initiatives to local young people. The Fund provides a funding pool to community groups delivering initiatives that are aligned to the objectives of the Shire's youth services model.

Grants under \$1000 will be assessed by the Chief Executive Officer.

Grants \$1000 or greater (to a maximum of \$25,000), will be assessed by the Grants Selection Committee.

### ***InspireArts – Community Creativity and Cultural Fund***

The InspireArts Fund aims to support eligible applicants to carry out arts and culture initiatives which encourage new partnerships, improve access to arts and culture activity within the Shire, achieve long term artistic and cultural benefits and engage local residents.

Grants under \$1000 will be assessed by the Chief Executive Officer.

Grants \$1000 or greater (to a maximum of \$2000), will be assessed by the Grants Selection Committee.